

File

September 10, 1985

TO: Memo to File

FROM: Thomas J. Suchoski, Geologist *TJS* *DOE/045/014*

RE: Unreclaimed Leach Operation, Rush Valley Enterprises,
Unpermitted Facility, Tooele County, Utah

On August 28, 1985, Wayne Hedberg, Dave Hooper and Tom Suchoski, of the Division staff, met with Mary Beth Martin, and George Campbell, Bureau of Land Management, (BLM) for the purpose of viewing exploration and mining operations for which the BLM has a concern in the Rush Valley Area of Tooele County, Utah. Seven sites were visited on this field trip.

The fifth site visited was Lab Energy's leach facility for mining of the volcanic tuff in the area. The facilities consist of one not so functional semi-trailer (the roof has been torn off) the remains of one site building (most of the frame has been blown over or destroyed) and a leach pad facility made of concrete approximately 100 feet by 50 feet, with each of the limbs on the 100 foot dimension being sloped toward the center. It appears as though the facility has not been operated for several years judged on the delapidation and deteriorating condition of the facilities. The operation was set up in 1981 according to Mr. Campbell.

North of the facility described earlier there is a mining area which consists of one pit approximately two acres in extent. The material in the pit consists of a welded volcanic tuft, disturbance has not been reclaimed in any sense and needs to be regraded and revegetated. Eight pictures were taken of the facility and pit area.

According to Mr. Campbell the mining of volcanic tuff was conducted for the purpose of leaching out gold mineral in the tuff. Based on the site investigation, it appears as though this is not the first attempt to mine in this area. To the west of the present disturbances there is a old pad and other spoil piles that have been naturally revegetated over the period of time since first development.

cc: L. Braxton
W. Hedberg

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